



TUFOIC

TASMANIAN U.F.O. INVESTIGATION CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

October 1985

Edition 46

YEAR TO DATE

Since our last Newsletter (June 85) information has come to hand on sightings around Australia.

West Australia and South Australia seem to have most of the reports but some strange events have come out of Papua-New Guinea and after a long spell of inactivity from New South Wales also. Queensland and Victoria like Tasmania have only had a few cases this year. Nothing new has occurred on the local scene since May, although a possible new case near Fingal has so far eluded us (see Tasmania).

Australia

It now seems that the initial action of the year at Oldea where a train was alleged to have been affected by near by lights was just a break down. Distant lights were seen at the time but were of low strangeness.

A car pace from Beechboro (WAust) was more puzzling on January 4th. Then later in the month, bright lights were reported from the Cairns district of Northern Queensland. The most detailed report was of 3 or 4 lights in a row, the centre lights pulsating orange to green.

A couple of New South Wales cases came later in January. Two Davistown witnesses in a car saw a five sided object with lights pass over their car, a smooth humming noise was heard at the time of the close approach of the object. Some days later a man on the beach at Umina sighted a "mass of lights". It was soundless and estimated to be the size of a jumbo jet. It was also estimated to be at an altitude of 300m.

Papua-New Guinea appears on the scene for the first time it seems in an age. In February a "foreign object" was reported from the South Fly area, then on the 24th twelve UFOs were seen by villagers outside Kundiawa.(see cuttings).

March saw Tasmania's first case a nocturnal light report from Glenorchy. However, it is a possible occupant case that next catches the attention, let's hope we hear more about this later. The sighting occurred at West Pennant Hills(NSW) on March 5th. Two teenagers allegedly sighted a UFO as large as a house. It rose behind some trees and then settled down again. This was followed by the appearance of torch-like beams shining on their car and beings with long arms started to walk towards them. They drove off at high speed.

Only one case of note occurred in April when a Goolwa (SA) witness reported a bright light resting on the Murray River. It appeared to be giving off beams of light. Further reports came from South Australia the following month. On May 17th a motor-mechanic reported a sighting from the Yorke Peninsula. The car radio crackled when a blinding white light appeared shining a light into his car. The light moved into the clouds a few times before disappearing. Another report was from near Victor Harbour when a hiker saw a bluish-white light approaching from behind at speed. As it came closer the hiker tried to run but fell over, it passed above him with a loud roar. He failed to see what happened to the light.

Two Tasmania cases occurred in May at Richmond and near Fingal (see our June Newsletter).

YEAR TO DATE Continued

New South Wales was in the news again on May 26th when a security guard at Campbelltown said he frightened off a flying saucer with his flashlight. He says he saw a huge bright saucer; he flashed his torch towards it and it started zigzagging about. Returning later the light was still there so he flashed his torch again and it stopped zigzagging and shot off into space.

West Australia took over the activity by mid-year, with a claim that street lights went out at Mt Barker on May 19th when a blue object passed over the town. On May 24th a motorist near Roleystone saw a bright red/orange object. He stopped to watch and the object came down in a falling leaf motion and moved overhead. The witness suffered sore eyes, nausea and a headache afterwards. Staying in WA a bright light lit up a Marylands flat on June 7th. Two yellow and one blue light were seen close by. Two days later on June 9th two pilots flying out of Mt Newman observed a bright orange object approach from the west. The object stopped dead, then lost altitude and pulled away at the same time. Another motorist event occurred on June 14th with yet another orange light that followed his car for an hour. When the light was at its closest the witness claimed his car became hot inside.

Source of sightings..WAUFOIC, ACUFOS, UFOR(QLD), Aust International UFO Research(SthAust), TUFOIC.
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TASMANIA

At home the year has been dominated by ballons, an explanation that is not often used. During May there was a run of red lights events reported drifting in the Howrah area, We concluded they must be some type of aerial device. We have now heard that a nearby school was experimenting with a large ballon and that the children were sent home to experiment for the teacher????

Grown ups too, it seems, have also been mucking about with ballons if a number of similar cases in past weeks is any indication. An ABC item refering to July 26th recounted details of an object with a red light viewed from North Eastern Victoria by many witnesses. A plane from Benalla took off but was no nearer the object when it reached 15000ft. The object was tracked by Melbourne Airport radar and was last seen from an oil rig in Bass Strait. The event failed to make the newspapers but West Coast Rep: Peter Zeihmeister made enquiries and was advised it was a ballon.

Two weeks later on August 9th the Centre, Weather Bureau and Hobart Airport received many calls describing a silver object prominent against the blue southern sky. The intense silver object moved slowly away to the south east. After some confusion the Hobart Weather Bureau said it was a high altitude research ballon released at Pine Gap. It was tracked by Hobart Airport on radar at 30,000m.

Another event caught the media's attention, this time Neville Wran, Premier of NSW, together with the pilot's of his jet sighted a silver oblong object above them whilst over the New South Wales North Coast. This time it was September 5th and two days later the Sydney Weather Bureau said they tracked an object at 30,000m over Coffs Harbour.

On September 9th the silver object made its appearance over Kalgoorlie before it made off towards the sea. Again it was followed on radar, this time from Perth. The Perth Weather Bureau said it was a high altitude weather ballon capable of circling the world for 100 days and it would be tracked by satellite. But no one seemed to know just who it belonged to.

Write to TASMANIAN UFO INVESTIGATION CENTRE at PO Box 99, Nth Hobart.
Publications list available, past Annual Reports, Newsletters.
Know of sightings new or old, telephone Keith Roberts on Home 236009.
****Member of AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR UFO STUDIES*****ACUFOS*****

TASMANIA Continued

From "On th Spot", Examiner August 12th.....

A Fingal resident who rang The Examiner yesterday was wondering whether anybody else saw a round orange object with a brightorange beam coming from its side hovering over the road between Power (Tower?) Hill and Mangana at about 2.30am on Saturday morning (10th).

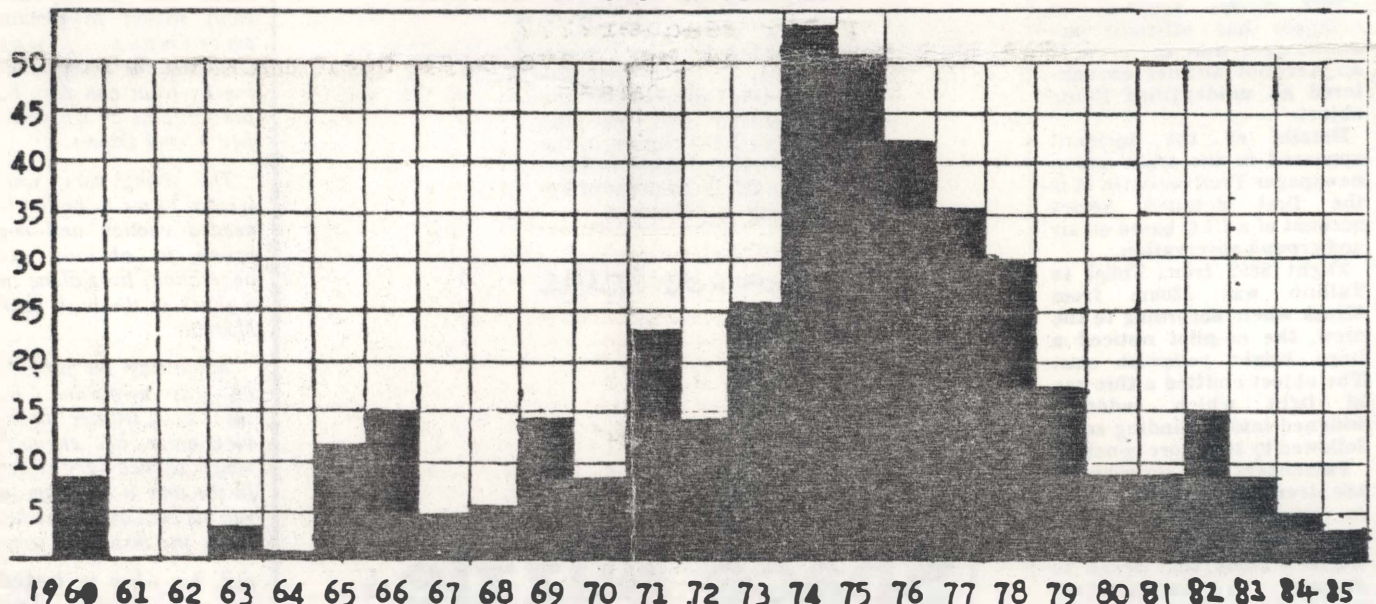
Follow up with the Examiner revealed that the witness did not want his name in the paper and only left a Christian name. The story became more confused when the paper ran an item two days later to tell readers that the Fingal object was a weather ballon. Yet another contact with the Examiner revealed that no one was sure of the source for this item, it was thoughtto have come from the Weather Bureau. Launceston Weather Bureau advised us that their weather ballon went nowhere near Fingal and would not have been visible in the night sky. It could be that the August 9th high altitude ballon event over the south of the state had become confused with the Fingal report.

Despite mention twice in the Examiner in the following week the Centre's Northern Representatives did not receive any calls. Colin Fletcher at St Marys is on the spot to check the report out but has been unable to locate the mystery caller.

Another Northern report came to the Centre from the Westbury area. This time a triangular golden shape was seen and soon after a cigar-like object that just disappeared (August 27th). This time the witness has been reluctant to provide any more details.

There are always a percentage of cases that cannot be finalised or tracked down and we seem to have scored two in quick succession.

SIGHTINGS CHART UPDATE



Our Sighting Chart last published in the 1981 Annual Report is well overdue for an update. It can soon be seen that the 1980s have not been very productive from the UFO point of view. Despite I recall critics of the late 70s saying that exposure of the subject on TV and in films would trigger huge flaps.

A slight hiccup in 1982 was due to a series of cases uncovered at GeorgeTown. Generally speaking despite the odd strange event no patterns can be discerned with the low volume of sightings in the last few years.

Some old cases still come to hand and they mostly fit into the pre-existing flaps of the 1970s. We can only keep our fingers crossed that unexplained cases drop no lower or we will have just about reached zero!

Passengers report UFO

BUENOS AIRES — Passengers and crewmen aboard a commercial airliner saw two darting, pulsating unidentified flying objects over the interior province of Santiago Del Estero, local newspapers said on Monday.

The Daily Clarin of Buenos Aires, which had a photographer and a reporter aboard the plane returning from covering an auto race, carried pictures of the UFOs which appeared as vaguely shaped, bright objects against a dark sky.

The objects were sighted late on Sunday by people aboard an Aerolineas Argentinas Boeing 737 bound for Buenos Aires from Santiago Del Estero, 1250 km north of the capital.

Huge UFO seen over China

THE crew of a Chinese airliner flying over north-west China spotted a huge unidentified flying object travelling at high speed across their path, the official People's Daily reported yesterday. The paper said the plane was on a night flight from Peking to Paris on June 11 when the crew saw the blue and white object flying on a north-south course. They said it was divided into three levels and had a bright spot in its centre.

McBURN 24/6/85

PAPUA NEW GUINEA 26-2-85
POST COURIER, N.S.W.

UFO's seen

Twelve unidentified flying objects were seen by Kimbr villagers six kilometres outside Kundiawa on Thursday night.

The "flying saucers" flew at a low altitude along the gorge of "wara Simbu" towards Madang, a medical worker reported.

The objects were circular with lights like a car brake lights and they flew in a wedge formation.

Soviets tell of first 'official' close encounter

From GABRIEL RONAY of The Sunday Times in Moscow

THE Soviet Academy of Sciences has officially acknowledged that the crew of an Aeroflot airliner encountered an unidentified flying object.

Details of the incident appeared in the trade union newspaper Trud recently. It is the first detailed Soviet account of a UFO based on air and ground observation.

Flight 8852 from Tbilisi to Tallinn was 120km from Minsk when, according to the crew, the co-pilot noticed a huge, bright yellowish star. The object emitted a thin ray of light which suddenly widened into a blinding cone, followed by two more cones.

Passengers were surprised to see streets below them bathed in bright lights.

The light vanished, leaving a green cloud that began to descend at extraordinary speed and stopped behind the airliner. The pilot alerted ground control, which pinpointed the UFO flying behind the plane at 10,000 metres and 480km/h.

The cloud changed shape into a circle, then a square and finally "solidified" as a giant, needle-nosed, wingless aircraft.

This "cloud plane" followed the airliner over Riga and Vilnius. Ground control in both places picked up two aircraft when flight schedules showed only one in the area at the time, and tracked them all the way to Tallinn, where the intruder was again picked up on radar before disappearing.

600 sightings of UFOs over China

PEKING — More than 600 unidentified flying objects have been sighted in China in the past five years, according to the country's just-concluded first UFO seminar.

One speaker at the seminar said that the first UFO picture in the world was taken in Tianjin city, south-east of Peking, 40 years ago.

Examiner 24/6/85

Space puzzle

MOSCOW, Sun., Reuter — Soviet scientists are still puzzled by a whistling, blazing fireball which swept southern Siberia last year but appears to have left no trace.

Tass news agency reported yesterday that the scientists put forward a theory linking increased meteorite and fireball activity with the approach of Halley's Comet.

The fireball appeared in the night sky over the city of Tomsk in February 1984, first as a distant bright star and then, not far above the city, as a red flash so strong that it acti-

vated the switch-off mechanism on automatic street lights.

A scientific team set up to search the nearby Tunguska forest for debris or craters which could be signs of a meteorite shower has so far failed to find anything.

In 1908, two years before Halley's Comet last passed earth, meteorites and fireballs were seen over Russia, Britain, and China.

The comet is due to pass late this year and early next year. Two Soviet spacecraft are taking part in an international project to monitor it.

McBURN 27-2-85

WEIRD Happening No 2: A reader who for reasons which will become obvious wishes to remain anonymous, was awakened the other morning by what can only be described as an Unidentified Flying Object.

The young man who seemed to me to be level-headed enough and not prone to obvious exaggeration, lives alone in a shack in the bush near Margate.

About 6am on Sunday, he was awakened, he says, by a strange throbbing noise, like engines, which seemed very close. In the time it took him to rub his eyes and shake his head, the throbbing stop-

ped, but when he looked out of the window, there was a single bright light disappearing through the trees.

"It gave me a bit of a fright," he concedes, "missing that perhaps he was letting his imagination run away with him."

That might have been that except that he has now heard from someone else at Margate who was awakened by a strange throbbing noise about 6am on Sunday.

Any others?

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